



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hideaki YAMANAKA et al.

Application No.: 09/944,193

Filed: September 4, 2001

Docket No.: 110538

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND
MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS

*Pre amend
9/B
4-8-02
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed January 4, 2002, please
amended the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0005] as follows:

[0005] The known technique for improving the thermal stability of the magnetic disk, especially a magnetic disk having magnetization in the in-plane direction include a method in which a so-called keeper layer having soft magnetization is provided as an underlying base layer for a recording layer, and a method in which a layer having magnetization in a direction opposite to that of magnetization of a recording layer is provided. As one of the latter method, a technique is disclosed in a literature of E. N. Abarra et al. (E. N. Abarra et al., TECHNICAL REPORT OF IEICE. MR2000-34 (2000-10)), in which the thermal stability is improved by forming an Ru thin film as a magnetic coupling layer between a recording layer of CoCrPtB and a magnetization-stabilizing layer of

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